

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SEN. CLARKE SECURES FEDERAL BIOTERRORISM FUNDING PRIORITY FOR THE STRUGGLING DMC

LANSING- State Senator Hansen Clarke (D-Detroit) won approval today of an amendment which could potentially steer millions of dollars in federal support to the struggling Detroit Medical Center. Sen. Clarke, a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, was able to earn approval of a proposal which would put the Detroit Medical Center at the forefront of receiving federal bioterrorism preparedness funding.

“As the state’s leading level one trauma center, Detroit Receiving Hospital is the most appropriate institution to take the lead on bioterrorism preparedness,” said Sen. Clarke. “The city of Detroit would be the most likely target of a terrorist attack in this state and it is the DMC that would serve as our front line response.”

Sen. Clarke’s amendment to the Community Health budget states that priority consideration in the allocation of the bioterrorism hospital portion of the federal funds are to be given to the state’s level one trauma centers. The Detroit Receiving Hospital is the regions only level one trauma center.

“I think this is a win-win situation for all parties involved,” said Sen. Clarke. “My amendment will increase preparedness for the citizens of Detroit from potential bioterrorism threats while still protecting local jobs and maintaining access to health care,” said Sen. Clarke.

SOUND BITE AVAILABLE: www.senate.michigan.gov/dem/hansenclarke/press.htm

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